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Attorney Docket No. 826.1751

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Masayoshi SHIMIZU

Application No.: 09/957,032

Group Art Unit: 2621

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OCT 15 2004

Technology Center 2600

Confirmation No.: 4255

Filed: September 21, 2001

Examiner: Patrick L. Edwards

For: IMAGE STATUS ESTIMATING METHOD, IMAGE CORRECTING METHOD, IMAGE
CORRECTION APPARATUS, AND STORAGE MEDIUM

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 11, 2004, applicant provisionally elects
Claims 15, 19, 26 and 34 of Group Species I, with traverse.

The present invention is concerned with a main method (or apparatus) and variations
thereon that extend the main method that itself is a method for estimating and correcting an
image. Examination of any of the variations for estimating and correcting an image necessarily
requires examination of the main method. As a result, restriction is not proper since the
examination of the main method will occur anyway.

Withdrawal of the restriction is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 10/12/04

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